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PTO/SB/21 (02-04)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

3

Application Number

10/625,042

Filing Date

07/22/2003

First Named Inventor

Remo Anton Hochstrasser

Art Unit

1743

Examiner Name

Samuel P. Siefke

Attorney Docket Number

21272 US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | |

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name

Karen J. Jacobs

Signature

Karen J. Jacobs

Date

09/18/2006

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name

Karen J. Jacobs

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Karen J. Jacobs

Date

09/18/2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application

Confirmation No.

Inventors: Hochstrasser et al.

Group: 1743

Application No. 10/625,042, filed July 22, 2003
(Case Docket No. 21272 US)

Examiner: Samuel P. Siefke

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR LOCATING AND CUTTING OUT
CONCENTRATIONS IN A GEL

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO AUGUST 17, 2006 OFFICE ACTION

Nutley, New Jersey 07110
September 18, 2006

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Communication is filed in response to the August 17, 2006 Office issued in connection with the above-identified patent application. A response was originally due September 17, 2006. However, since September 17, 2006 is a Sunday, a response to this Office Action is due the next business day, September 18, 2006 and is timely filed herewith.

In the Office Action restriction was required under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Specifically, there are allegedly six independent and distinct groups of inventions:

- | | | |
|------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| I. | Claims 1-8 | Classified in class 436, subclass 174 |
| II. | Claims 9-11 | Classified in class 422, subclass 104 |
| III. | Claims 12-14 | Classified in class 422, subclass 99 |

Filed: July 22, 2003

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|-----|--------------|--|
| IV. | Claims 15-19 | Classified in class 436, subclass 177 |
| V. | Claims 20-21 | Classified in class 422, subclass 101 |
| VI. | Claims 22-26 | Classified in class 422, subclass 68.1 |

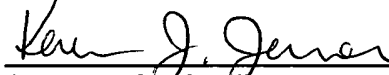
In response to this restriction requirement, applicants elect, with traverse, to prosecute at this time Group I, claims 1-8. Applicants traverse this restriction on the grounds that it would not be a serious burden for the Examiner to examine all claims at one time. All claims in the subject application are directed to a device or method for locating and cutting out concentrations in a gel.

Applicants further note that even if the restriction requirement is not withdrawn, it would not be a burden for the Examiner to examine Groups I and IV together as these Groups are in the same class. Similarly, Groups II, III, V and VI are in the same class, and accordingly, it would not be an undue burden for the Examiner to examine the claims in all of those Groups at one time.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in furthering prosecution, applicants request that the undersigned attorney be contacted at the number below.

No fee is required in connection the filing of this Communication. If any fees are deemed necessary, authorization is given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 08-2525.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

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